

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 were previously cancelled. Claims 29, 31, 33-37, 42, 43 and 46-55 are amended. Claim 45 is cancelled. Claims 30, 32, 38-41 and 44 are carried forward, all as follows.

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A continuous web mixing device comprising:

at least a first former;

at least a first longitudinal cutter associated with said first former and adapted to cut a first continuous web constituted of a plurality of parallel webs and associated with said first former, longitudinally, in a direction of ~~web~~ travel of said first continuous web through the web mixing device, into at least first and second cut partial continuous webs each constituted of said plurality of parallel webs;

at least first and second partial web guide paths both adapted to simultaneously conduct selected ones of said plurality of parallel webs of said first and second cut partial continuous webs from said first former;

an outlet of said continuous web mixing device adapted to receive said first and second cut partial continuous webs and to unite them into a main continuous web; and

at least a first stapler arranged in one of said at least first and second partial web guide paths before said outlet and after said at least one former, one of said at least first and second cut partial continuous webs passing through said first stapler, said first stapler joining together said plurality of parallel paper webs of said one of said at least first and second cut partial continuous webs passing through said at least first stapler prior to said uniting of said first and second cut partial continuous webs at said outlet.

30. (Previously Presented) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 further including a second former and a second former guide path adapted to convey one of a second continuous web and a partial continuous web to said outlet.

31. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 30 wherein said first and second cut partial continuous webs from said first former are conducted along first and second sides of said second former and are united at said outlet with said second continuous web from said second former, said second ~~former~~ continuous web being located between said first and second cut partial continuous webs from said first former, to form said main continuous web.

32. (Previously Presented) The continuous web mixing device of claim 30 further including a second stapler on said second former guide path.

33. (Currently Amended) A continuous web mixing device comprising:

at least a first former and a second former;

at least one longitudinal cutter associated with said at least first former and adapted to cut a first continuous web, constituted of a first plurality of parallel webs and associated with said first former longitudinally, in a direction of ~~web~~ travel of said first continuous web through the web mixing device, into at least first and second cut partial continuous webs each constituted of said plurality of parallel webs;

at least first and second partial web guide paths associated with said first former and both adapted to conduct selected ones of said plurality of parallel webs of said first and second cut partial continuous webs from said first former;

an outlet of said web mixing device located after said at least first former and said second former and adapted to receive said first and second cut partial continuous webs and to unite them into a main continuous web; and

a second continuous web, constituted of a second plurality of parallel webs and associated with said second former and movable along a second continuous web guide path, said at least first and second cut partial continuous webs, each associated with said first former, and each constituted of selected ones of said first plurality of parallel webs, being simultaneously conducted on both first and second sides of said second former, said at least first and second cut partial continuous webs and being united at said outlet with said second continuous web constituted of said second plurality of parallel webs to form said main continuous web.

34. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 33 further including a stapler on one of said at least first and second partial web guide paths associated with said first former and said second continuous web guide path associated with said second former.

35. (Currently Amended) A continuous web mixing device comprising:

a first former;

a first longitudinal cutting device associated with said first former and adapted to cut a first continuous web, constituted of a first plurality of parallel webs into first and second cut partial first continuous webs each constituted of said first plurality of parallel webs;

at least one first former guide path;

a first stapler associated with said first former guide path;

a second former;

a second longitudinal cutting device associated with said second former, and adapted to cut a second continuous web, constituted of a second plurality of parallel webs into

and first and second cut partial second continuous webs each constituted of said second plurality of said parallel web;

at least one second former guide path;

a second stapler associated with said second former guide path;

an outlet for said continuous web mixing device; and

at least a first deflection roller intermediate said first and second formers and said outlet, one of said first continuous web and of said first and second ones of said first and second cut partial second continuous webs, each associated with its separate one of said first and second formers, being conducted through said one of said first and second staplers which is associated with the other of said first and second formers together with one of said second continuous web and of said first and second ones of said first and second cut partial continuous webs associated with the other one of said first and second formers.

36. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 35 further including a second deflection roller adapted to conduct at least one of said first and second cut partial first and second continuous webs and of said first and second continuous webs from said first and second formers to said outlet and not passing through one of said first and second staplers.

37. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 35 further including a second deflection roller adapted to guide one of said first and second cut partial continuous first and second continuous webs around said first and second stapler and along an outside of said continuous web mixing device.

38. (Previously Present) The continuous web mixing device in accordance with claim 29 further including a folding apparatus after, in said direction of web travel, said continuous web mixing device.

39. (Previously Presented) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 wherein said at least first longitudinal cutter is located upstream of said at least first former.
40. (Previously Presented) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 wherein said at least first and second cut partial continuous webs are brought together by said first former.
41. (Previously Presented) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 wherein said first longitudinal cutter is located at an outlet for said first former.
42. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 wherein said main continuous web includes both stapled and not stapled ~~ones~~ partial one of said at least first and second cut partial continuous webs ~~and said first continuous web~~.
43. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 further including a folding apparatus, said first continuous web and said first and second cut partial continuous webs being united~~connected~~ with each other at said folding apparatus.
44. (Previously Presented) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 further including a folding apparatus located after, in said direction of web travel, said first former.
45. (Cancelled)
46. (Currently Amended) A method for mixing continuous webs including:
providing at least a first former;
associating at least one longitudinal cutting device with said at least first former;

conveying at least two parallel webs through said former and said associated longitudinal cutting device and forming at least first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs each constituted of said at least two parallel webs;

providing at least first and second guide paths;

providing a stapler in at least one of said first and second guide paths;

moving said first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs along said first and second guide paths;

stapling together said at least two parallel webs of at least one of said first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs using said stapler;

providing an outlet; and

combining said first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs into a main continuous web at said outlet, said at least one of said first and second partial continuous webs being stapled together using said stapler before being again united with the other of said first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs into said main continuous web.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 further including locating a folding apparatus downstream, in a direction of web travel of said stapler, and ~~arranging~~ arranged ~~partial webs conducted through~~ over said former with stapled and non-stapled ones of said at least first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs prior to entry into said folding apparatus.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 further including locating a folding apparatus downstream, in a direction of web travel, of said stapler and arranging ~~partial~~ webs conducted ~~through~~ over said former with first and second ~~two~~ different stapled ones of said at least first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs prior to entry into said folding apparatus.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 further including providing a second former and guiding said first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs on first and second sides of said second former.

50. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~continuous web mixing device of claim 49 further including varying wherein a number of said at least two parallel webs ~~of said continuous web~~, which are dividable into said at least first and second longitudinal cut and formed partial continuous webs ~~can be varied~~.

51. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~continuous web mixing device of claim 50 further including varying wherein a ~~size of said~~ number of said parallel webs in said at least one of said first and second longitudinally cut and formed partial continuous webs passing through said first stapler ~~can be varied~~ in steps of four pages.

52. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 further including a second stapler arranged ~~in~~on the other of said at least first and second partial web guide paths.

53. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 further including an additional ~~parallel~~continuous web guide path adapted to bypass said at least first stapler.

54. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 29 further including a third cut partial continuous web.

55. (Currently Amended) The continuous web mixing device of claim 54 further including a second stapler adapted to receive said third cut partial continuous web, said second stapler being located prior to said outlet.